

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# Northern Region News

USDA  
NAT'L AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY  
1997 MAY 31 P 6 23

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 4

April 1997

## Bridge Group Repairs Suspension Bridges In Bob Marshall

by John Kattell, Transportation Structures,  
Engineering, RO, Missoula, Montana.

There are more than 20 trail suspension bridges in the Northern Region. Many of these bridges are miles from any road or trailhead. Some are in the roadless National Wilderness System.

From time to time these remote bridges require maintenance repairs. One of the most significant and difficult repairs involves the replacement of the timber tower caps that support the main suspension cables. Because these members have a high degree of exposure, they are vulnerable to early decay.

In the past two years, Flathead NF and the Regional Bridge Group have replaced tower caps on two different suspension bridges in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the Big Prairie Trail Bridge (August 1996) and the Black Bear Trail Bridge (May 1995) on the South Fork of the Flathead River.

These repairs presented unique challenges. Replacement of the timber tower caps is difficult because the suspension cables have to be raised and temporarily supported while the caps are removed and replaced. Large equipment could not be used in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, so the bridge group designed a jacking apparatus that attached to the timber towers.

Location of the bridges required the bridge group give special consideration to logistics.



**BLACK BEAR TRAIL SUSPENSION BRIDGE** on the South Fork of the Flathead River in the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Photos by Duane Yager.

### REPAIRING THE TIMBER TOWER

**CAPS** on the  
Black Bear  
Trail Suspension  
Bridge.

All equipment, materials and tools had to be packable and power would not be available.

**BLACK BEAR TRAIL BRIDGE** is 20 miles south of Spotted Bear Ranger Station and 10 miles from the trailhead. The bridge spans 211 feet across the river. Required equipment included scaffolding to access the towers, special rigging and pulleys to hoist equipment and materials and the jacking apparatus. The new timber tower cap was packed to the bridge in six pieces; the largest piece weighed approximately 200 pounds. All equipment, supplies and materials required approximately 30 mule pack loads. A force account crew completed the work in five days. Members included Dyane Yager and Gary Zabel of the RO Bridge Group who were also responsible for the

design of the project; Don Esslinger from the Nez Perce NF; and Dave Arbach, Al Sorensen, Jack David, Ron Shafer and Pete Woll of the Flathead NF. Gene and Clint Brash were the packers.

**BIG PRAIRE TRAIL BRIDGE**, is 32 miles south of the Spotted Bear Ranger and 25 miles from Holland Lake trailhead. The bridge spans 170 feet across the river. Two days were required to pack to the site. The force account crew included Gary Zabel from the RO Bridge Group, Jack David, Dave Arbach and three high school volunteers; they spent 10 days on the project. Similarities of the two bridges permitted utilization of the same jacking apparatus used on the Black Bear bridge.

Many of the Region's other suspension bridges are similar and the timber tower caps on these bridges may need to be replaced some time in the future. A word to the Forests from the Regional Bridge Group: "If you have suspension bridges with timber tower caps that are deteriorating, call us. We can help."



# Celebrating People

## In Times of Change May 20-22 in RO

### It's Coming!

Mark your calendar and plan to attend "Celebrating People", May 20-22 in Missoula, the annual U.S. Department of Agriculture program featuring heritage month groups and highlighting the many cultures represented in USDA agencies.

This year's theme is "Celebrating People — In Times of Change." Excellent speakers from diverse cultures will be featured, along with authentic cultural demonstrations.

Montana Lt. Governor Judy Martz will be the opening speaker, Tuesday, May 20, 1:00 p.m., in the Village Red Lion ballroom. The Wednesday and Thursday (May 21-22) program will be in the Missoula Federal Building (Room No. 263).

On Wednesday, May 21, the program includes:

- Lawrence Lucas, Washington, D.C., president of the USDA Coalition of Minorities.
- Dr. Henrietta Mann, professor in Native American Studies, University of Montana/Missoula.
- The Sabala American Indian dancers from Kamiah, Idaho.
- A panel discussion on "Cultural Responses To Change."

Thursday's program, May 22, will feature a presentation by Joe Meade, a visually-impaired recreation manager from the Forest Service's national headquarters, Washington, D.C. and the participation of the Northern Region's Leadership Team.

A complete, detailed program will be available in April. For additional information about the "Celebrating People" program, telephone Ellen Anderson, RO Financial Resources (406) 329-3093.

## North Fork Reunion June 27-29, Canyon Work Center, Clearwater NF

*by District Ranger Darcy Pederson,  
Clearwater RD, Grangeville, Idaho,  
Nez Perce National Forest*

**F**ormer employees and friends of the Canyon, Kelly Creek, and Bungalow Ranger Districts are invited to attend a reunion scheduled for June 27 - 29, at the Canyon Work Center, Clearwater National Forest.

A fun-filled weekend of food, games, stories, photos, and memories is planned for those willing to make the journey to the beautiful North Fork of the Clearwater River.

You can plan to camp at Aquarius Campground, at various dispersed sites along the river, or at the Work Center. Sites will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Motels and other lodging is available in and around Orofino.

For more information, contact:

Tam White  
PO Box 1945  
Orofino, Idaho 83544  
(208) 476-7193 (H)  
(208) 476-3775 (W)

Darcy Pederson  
Route 2, Box 679B  
Grangeville, Idaho 83530  
(208) 983-0385 (H)  
(208) 983-1963 (W)

Please forward addresses for the reunion committee mailing list to:

Chuck Petersen,  
112 Fairway Blvd.,  
Kalispell, Montana 59901  
(406) 756-1231  
kjell@digisys.net

Come join us in June on the North Fork.

## '97 Natural Resources Youth Camp, July 27-August 2, Lubrecht Forest

**T**he 1997 Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp, July 27-August 2, at the University of Montana's Lubrecht Experimental Forest, 35 miles northeast of Missoula, is open to youths entering grades 10, 11 and 12.

The 11th annual camp is sponsored by more than 50 State and Federal agencies, industries, conservation and service organizations, professional societies and private individuals. Camp staff and instructors come from these agencies, industries, agricultural producers and interested organizations.

Approximately 45 campers spend one week in a rustic setting, learning about Montana's natural resources. Purpose of the camp is to help students develop the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about the future of natural resources. They learn to see the "big picture" in resource management, administration and protection. In an intensive, one-week program, students

are shown the interactions and interdependence of resources. They will better understand the complex resource interrelationships their generation and society in general must understand in making sound, future land and resource decisions.

The camp program deals with soils, wildlife, water, survival skills, range, minerals & geology, forestry, recreation management, plus: discovery workshops, rafting the Blackfoot River, volleyball, baseball, games, campfires & singing.

Camp application materials are available at most R-1 Ranger Districts and at National Forest headquarters. Forest Service contacts include Beth Kennedy and Glenn Koepke, Superior (MT) RD, Lolo NF (406) 822-4233, and Gloria Weisgerber, WO Public & Governmental Relations office (406) 329-3094.

Deadline for applications: May 15. For added details, telephone (406) 293-4836.

# Rexford, Fortine RDs' Traveling Trunks In Tobacco Valley



**LYNNE ROSARIO**, Interpretive Specialist, Rexford RD, Eureka, MT., Kootenai NF, tells a felt board story from the Songbird Blues Traveling Trunk to two students, Ashley Gullo (left) and Melanie Finch, at the Eureka Elementary School. The students are placing felt birds and animals on the board as Lynne tells the story. Photo by Larry Cheek, TOBACCO VALLEY NEWS, Eureka, MT

Students in school classrooms and in their homes in Fortine, Eureka and Trego, MT, have been batty about bats, nutty over trees, liling like songbirds and having a howling good time, thanks to the expanding "Traveling Trunk" program on the Rexford and Fortine Ranger Districts of the Kootenai NF.

It started back in 1991 with a Wolf Box donated to the Kootenai NF by the National Wildlife Federation. Recently the Tobacco Valley Traveling Trunk program has expanded.

The Rexford and Fortine Districts, in cooperation with Flathead Audubon and the Dancing Prairie Birders, a local birding group, purchased a Songbird Blues Box from the Montana Natural History Center.

Teachers from three Tobacco Valley schools filled the schedule quickly for the school year in 1995-1996.

Inspired by the positive response to the new trunk, the Rexford RD decided to expand the traveling trunk program. With the approval of a request for Nature Watch funds, some end-of-the-year and District matching-partnership funds, the District developed two new trunks in 1996: a Bat Box and a Tree Trunk. Modeled after Tree Trunks in Colorado and Bat Boxes developed on the Lewis & Clark NF, these new trunks are custom-designed to fit resources and issues of Northwestern Montana.

Upon opening the trunks, teachers and students find them overflowing with puppets, animal mounts, tree cookies, video and audio tapes, field guides, reference and fic-

tion books, tree-measuring equipment and activity guides developed with teachers' needs in mind.

Local teachers rave about these easily-indexed, well-organized guides that put all the activities and information conveniently at their fingertips. Students delight in learning about ecolocation by playing a circle game. They enjoy counting rings on tree cookies to compare ages and years. Students learn that while bats *look* weird, they are really *cool* creatures.

Teachers and students measure tree heights, diameters and ages. Students of all ages make model leaf cross-sections with assorted colors of Jello and enjoy using a stethoscope to listen to trees' heartbeats. Traveling trunks are used by public school classes, kindergarten through 12th grade; home-schooled children of all ages; Headstart; and campers at area campgrounds.

Traveling trunks foster close working relationships with local schools and present balanced information to tomorrow's citizens about National Forest resources and management.

## Florence Contractor Trailbuilder of Year

Don Burgess, Florence, MT., contractor, has been named Trail Contractor of the Year for the four-state Northern Region.

In announcing the award, Northern Regional Forester Hal Salwasser explained that the award is made in cooperation with the Western Trailbuilders Association, a professional organization of trail contractors in the 14 western states.

"The Northern Region presents this outstanding trail construction contractor award," Salwasser said, "in recognition of

Don Burgess' technical expertise and high quality trail construction on numerous National Forests in Montana and northern Idaho."

Salwasser commended Burgess for "Your positive attitude, flexibility and commitment to quality work. Your attitude and work provide an outstanding example of trail contract work at its best. It is always a pleasure to work with you."



**TRAIL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR DON BURGESS**, Florence, MT, accepts the Northern Region's "Trail Contractor of the Year" award from Wendell Beardsley (retired) who was in charge of trail construction and management in the region.

# Kootenai NF and MDEQ Prepare DEIS Supplement On Proposed Mine

**T**he Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Kootenai National Forest will prepare a supplement to the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed ASARCO Rock Creek Mine project on the Cabinet Ranger District.

Scheduled for release this fall, the supplement will look at a specific, limited number of issues raised by the more than 2,000 public comments on the DEIS.

The issues cover impact to surface water and groundwater, tailings impoundment stability and visual impact of the proposed tailings impoundment/tailings facility. Before

making a final decision, the agencies will analyze an additional alternative which includes a new method of tailings disposal, a proposed change in the water treatment facilities and any resulting changes to ASARCO's draft water discharge permit.

This spring, the two agencies will schedule public meetings in Noxon, MT, and Sandpoint, ID, to discuss what will be included in the supplement.

## Free Ferries In Lincoln County, 1910

*from "Historic Overview of The Kootenai National Forest"*

Soon after the formation of Lincoln County in 1909, the commissioners replaced toll ferries with free operations at Troy and Libby, sharing the costs evenly with the Forest Service.

By January 1910 the county announced the free ferry regulations. From March through October, the boats ran from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m., and from daylight to dark for the rest of the year. Transportation was free every day but Sunday when the ferry operator was allowed to charge 15 cents for a foot passenger, 50 cents for a two-horse team, and 75 cents for a four-horse team.

All Forest Service employees on agency business were allowed free passage at all hours.

## R-1 Frontliners Field Questions Every Day, Every Season, Every Topic

*by Teresa VanGundy, Information Receptionist, Sandpoint, (Idaho) Ranger District, Panhandle NFs.*

**T**here are no dumb questions. We all learned that in elementary school. But I can tell you, I've sure heard a lot of "interesting questions" at the Sandpoint Ranger District front desk during the past nine years.

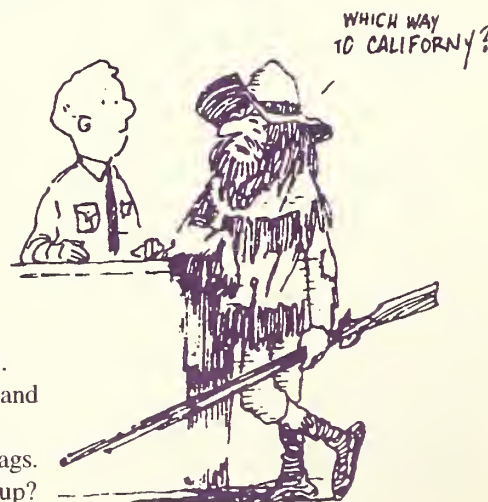
I've noted some of the those queries that I've tried to answer politely, accurately and with tact. How would you answer these?

- I want to talk to the keeper of the spotted owl and peregrine falcons. Isn't that the Forest Service?
- Is this where I pick up a divorce kit?
- If I build a dock, can I put it in the water?
- Can you tell me what bear poop looks like? How about if I describe it to you?
- What is Idaho's state animal?
- What do you call a male bear?
- Is there a lot of water in Lake Pend Oreille?
- Can I drill a hole through a tree without killing it?
- What's the name of the gallery in Sandpoint?
- I would like a permit for underwater logging.
- How long does it take a swallow egg to hatch?
- I just read in a magazine that you could tell me where all the huckleberries are.
- Can you tell me all the lakes between Portland and Sandpoint that we can stop and swim in?
- Do you have any cat traps? We have a cat that keeps breaking into our cat food bags.
- What do I do about a chipmunk that keeps picking flowers and stacking them up?



**TERESA VANGUNDY**, Information Receptionist, Sandpoint (Idaho) RD, Panhandle NF and customer.

Photo by Judy York.



# "Who Fixes The Fence" Guide Helpful For New Landowners

by Crystal Coffey-Avey, Writer-Editor,  
Madison RD, Ennis (MT),  
Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF.



The Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF is distributing a new brochure, "Who Fixes The Fence?", created by the staff of the Madison Ranger District to help prospective and new landowners learn about the management of nearby National Forests.

As the wildland/urban interface continues to grow closer together, the Forest Service is experiencing more problems with access and boundary issues. The folder/guide addresses these concerns as well as noxious weed management, permit requirements and time frames, wildfire concerns and multiple-use management.

It was designed to raise awareness about these topics and help the reader with suggestions about where to get more detailed information. Plans for a handy guide were discussed with the local Board of Realtors who felt a convenient guide was needed to provide important information to prospective and new landowners near National Forests. The Board of Realtors provided information in the early development stages of the guide and contributed approximately 1/3 of the cost of printing the first 5,000 copies. It contains

information very specific to National Forest neighbors and is not being placed on general information publication racks but is being distributed by local Realtors and frontliners as appropriate.

While the guide is specific to Madison County, it can be adapted to other areas and other National Forests. Several R-1 National Forests have requested electronic copies they have adapted for use in their areas. For additional information, contact Jack de Golia, Public Affairs Officer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, Dillon, MT (406) 683-3984.



KATHERINE DAUGHERTY

## Katherine Daugherty Receives Merit Award As "Angel of Mercy"

said. DeGolia was enroute to a meeting in Missoula at the time of the accident. "Kathy Daugherty, information assistant in the Missoula Federal Bldg., took it upon herself to come to Jack's assistance in the emergency room at St. Patrick Hospital," Austin explained. DeGolia said Daugherty was his "Angel of Mercy."

Daugherty notified the National Forest SO of the accident, advised them of Jack's condition and gave them the name of the hospital. "She gave him the most important gift," Austin said, "a familiar face in the midst of unfamiliar surroundings, following a traumatic event."

Daugherty alerted the RO Engineering auto shops with information about where the Forest Service car had been taken. She drove Jack to the RO offices in the Missoula Federal Bldg. and helped locate a Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF employee in the RO and arranged for Jack to ride back to Dillon with him. DeGolia was back home in Dillon in time for supper.

"We appreciate your initiative and Service to your fellow employee," Austin concluded.

## Timber Sale Volume Up In Fiscal Year 1996

The volume of timber sold in the Northern Region was up 51% in fiscal year 1996 over the previous year. The volume of timber harvested was down 2%.

The timber was sold in 20,362 sales, up from the 19,502 sales the previous year.

The timber sale volume in these sales was 369,873,000 board feet, up from 188,170,000 board feet sold the previous year. The total volume of timber harvested in fiscal 1996 was 342,739,000 board feet.

Total dollar value of timber sold in fiscal year 1996 was \$42,167,999, up 21% over the previous year. The total value of timber harvested was \$64,183,478, down 32% from the previous year.

In addition to the timber sold in fiscal year 1996, 23 million board feet was offered for sale but was not bid upon.

Katherine C. Daugherty, information assistant, RO Public & Governmental Relations, received a Certificate of Merit and a cash award "for service as an 'Angel of Mercy' " in connection with an automobile accident involving a Forest Service employee.

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Supervisor Debbie Austin presented the certificate and cash award March 5 in Missoula at the Regional Leadership Team meeting.

"I want you to know how much we on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF appreciate the many acts of kindness you provided Jack de Golia (Public Affairs Officer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF) following an auto accident east of Missoula," Austin



# Short Notes

**WESTERN GOVERNORS CONFERENCE**, July 21-24, Bismarck & Medora, North Dakota.

**EARTHQUAKE LAKE VISITOR CENTER**, Gallatin National Forest, will be charging an admission fee, starting May 24, as part of a recreation fee demonstration program authorized by Congress. Fees collected will stay at the visitor center for maintenance and improvements. Children under 12 will be admitted free, as will holders of Golden Age, Golden Eagle and Golden Access cards. Regular admission for all others will be \$2 per person. Tour groups will pay \$15 total.

**NORTH IDAHO RETIREE ASSOCIATION** semi-annual meeting will be Wednesday, May 14, at 11:30 a.m. Templin's Resort in Post Falls, ID. All Forest Service retirees are welcome. For additional information, telephone John Bushfield (208) 765-4918.

**TWO FORKS OF DOOLITTLE ROAD**, Wisdom (MT) RD, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, 10 miles northeast of Wisdom, will be closed from March 15 to about June 15 to permit installation of several culverts and other erosion control structures.

**ANALYSIS STARTED FOR TIMBER SALE** in the Middle Fork Clear Creek and Solo Creek drainages, Moose Creek/Selway District, Nez Perce NF. Approximately 400 acres were harvested in the 1970s. The area is now ready for final silvicultural treatment such as an overstory removal, seed tree removal or shelterwood removal. An additional 600 acres of the analysis area could be harvested to capture volume within trees affected with root disease or to maximize timber production within certain timber stands.

**MID-WINTER 1997 EAGLE SURVEY** turned up 119 bald eagles and two golden eagles on the Kootenai NF. In 1996 there were 117 bald eagles and three golden eagles. When the count first started in 1985, 85 bald eagles and two golden eagles were found.

**SURFING THE FS PAGE?** Check out the Grey Towers site with information about Gifford Pinchot and take a photographic tour of the Pinchot home. The mansion and grounds are currently undergoing a five-year restoration. Tours and other programs are presented on the estate from May through November.

**WHITE BIRD RIDGE BRIDGE** repaired, opened. The bridge, on Forest Road No. 624, Nez Perce NF, was repaired in March. Forest Engineer Greg Ruthruff reports crews replaced bridge beams, guardrails, approach guardrails and backfilled the abutments.

**TREE CIRCUMFERENCE**, in the February issue of the **NORTHERN REGION NEWS**, under the picture of the Montana State Champion Western Whitepine, was reported "72 inches." A Forest Service retiree reader in Sheridan, MT, T. S. (Stu) Burns, points out the circumference should read "227 inches" to give correct rating of "405." Thanks for the correction, Mr. Burns.

**MANN GULCH** is the name of a new, 10-panel folder about the August 1949 wild-fire in the Helena NF, near the Missouri River. It tells the story of the fire and the 13 men who lost their lives in the Mann Gulch fire. The narrative tells "How To Experience Mann Gulch", "What Happened in Mann Gulch," and "Visiting the Memorials." The folder is subtitled "...remembering those who died." Copies are available from the Helena NF, 2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, MT. 59601 (406/449-5201).

**MEADOW CREEK BURN PLAN**, Moose Creek/Selway RD, Nez Perce NF. The systematic prescribed burning program calls for burning 800 to 1,200 acres each year, starting in the spring/fall of 1997, for the next five years to improve big game habitat and reduce high accumulations of woody debris.

**PAYMENTS TO 48 COUNTIES IN R-1** shared in payments totaling \$18,238,604 for National Forests in the Northern Region. Regionally, fiscal year 1996 National Forest revenues decreased by \$2 million since fiscal year 1995, due to decreases in both harvest volumes and stumpage rates.

**DEB MANLEY HONORED BY SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS**: Manley, acting district ranger for the Hungry Horse RD, was named "Flathead Forester of the Year" by the Flathead Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. "Deb has a unique ability to blend what she knows as a natural resource professional into community efforts to solve difficult land management issues in a positive way," said Flathead NF Supervisor Rodd Richardson.

**STEVE MEALEY**, project manager for the Forest Service/Bureau of Land Management's Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project, Boise, Idaho, has been named director of the Idaho Department of Fish & Game. He served as Supervisor of the Boise NF, 1991-1994, before he led the three-year Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project.

**FIRE MANAGEMENT SKILLS 2000 SEMINARS**: Advanced Leadership Skill for Wildland Fire Management was conducted April 9, University of Montana. Crossfire Debates: Preparing For Tomorrow Today (Can Land Management Agencies Increase Burning in the Northern Rockies With Today's Climate of Budget Reductions, Air Quality Restrictions, Population Increases and Public & Political Pressures?). In the Line of Fire: Staff Ride—The Shepard Mountain Fire, May 14-15, Billings, MT. For registration and program details, telephone University of Montana, Continuing Education (406) 243-4623.

# Reminder Tips On Use Of Government Property

*Prepared by Tom Stockdale, Fleet Equipment Manager, RO Engineering, in collaboration with RO Human Resources, and RO Information Systems.*

A great deal of trust and responsibility is given all Forest Service employees. The expectation is that each of us will behave in a way that helps the agency achieve desired outcome and work goals. Our work goals include

- Enhanced Community Relationship;
- Improved Customer Service;
- Public Confidence As Land Stewards;
- A Diverse And Healthy Workforce/Organization.

Proper use of Government property is a big step in achieving the major work goals of the Forest Service. Following are some quick tips on use of Government property. They cover some of the major areas that come up too frequently. These tips can be helpful reminders in keeping us on the right track.

**MAIL**—Our mail system is to be used for official Forest Service business. It is not to be used for sending any private mail. Do not use official mail for personal use, such as Christmas cards, social flyers, letters, or any items that do not relate **EXCLUSIVELY** to the business of the government.

**COMPUTERS**—Electronic communication systems of any kind are to be used to support the Forest Service mission and programs and exchange of information on topics and current issues. So called "surfing the net" for articles, jokes and other unofficial documents is not appropriate.

**TELEPHONES**—Again, the purpose of our office phone system is to conduct official business. We are allowed to make a short call to our home while we are working in the office if there is a need to check on a family member. Personal business is not to be conducted. We now are allowed a phone call no more than 10 minutes in duration to our home or other residence while we are in overnight travel status. All personal long distance calls should be charged to a personal phone calling card.

**GENERAL SUPPLIES/PROPERTY**—Most employees are well aware that any Government property is just that: it belongs to the Government for use in conducting

official business. Taking of any of these items for personal benefit is not allowed. Employees are reminded that property tossed in the dumpster, trash barrel, waste basket, or scheduled for disposal in any manner is not available to be picked up and taken. Government dumpsters are not to be used to dispose of personal property unless you are living in Government furnished housing. In many cases these situations would seem harmless. However, it presents problems because we, as employees, have a responsibility to both the Government and to the public to avoid even the appearance of possible misuse of property.

**VEHICLES**—Any vehicle used by the Forest Service—regardless of being a Working Capital Fund green vehicle, General Service Administration-leased vehicle, or commercially-leased vehicle—is to be used for official purposes only and not to be used for shopping or conducting outside business. However, when an employee uses his/her own vehicle for Government business, they may do outside activities, providing it is on their own time and mileage is not charged. Following repeal of the national speed limits, individual states have established their own speed limits. We emphasize that the state speed limits are the **MAXIMUM SPEED** limits; not the normal or target speeds. Each individual driver is responsible for observing state speed limits and operating the vehicle in a safe and prudent manner which permits full control of the vehicle under the wide range of conditions that we encounter. The public is quick to call and report when they observe us traveling in an unsafe manner or when our vehicles are parked in places that do not seem normal or appropriate to them.

When you are in doubt about what is the proper procedures used with Government property, consult your Ethics and Conduct booklets or ask your immediate supervisor. Violation of ethical standards may result in disciplinary action that can range from a letter of reprimand to being discharged for the first offense.

## McCart Lookout Recognized For Historic Preservation



*MONTANA GOV. MARC RACICOT presents a Montana Historical Society historic preservation award to Gina A. Owens, resource assistant, Sula RD, Bitterroot NF, for the restoration of the McCart lookout.*

*Photo by Montana Historical Society.*

The Montana Historical Society presented a 1997 award for historic preservation to Gina Owens, resource assistant, and the staff of the Sula RD, Bitterroot NF, for the restoration of the McCart Lookout.

In a historic preservation program in the Montana State Capitol, Montana Governor Marc Racicot presented the award to Owens and eight other individuals and organizations for their work in preserving Montana heritage and history.

"Gina Owens and the staff of the Sula Ranger District have created for us the opportunity to experience life as a fire lookout," explained Paul M. Putz, State Historic Preservation Officer, at the award presentation.

"Gina, her crew and many volunteers restored the historic 1940s McCart lookout as overnight accommodations for visitors to the National Forest."

The work involved major improvements, including the replacement of tower legs, re-roofing and the repair and replacement of its major features. Today you can sign up for the waiting list to rent the McCart Lookout and enjoy the incredible experience of staying high above the trees and mountains on the edge of the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness.

# Public Warming Hut Built By Volunteers

by Debbie Butler, Forester, Priest Lake RD,  
Idaho Panhandle NFs, Priest River, Idaho.

**S**kiers and snowmobilers can enjoy the comforts of a warming hut in the winter of 1997-1998 near Priest Lake, on the south side of the Priest Lake RD. District Ranger Kent Dunstan says the new winter hut is expected to generate more winter use in the area near Pelke Pass. The facility is the product of a lot of hard work by members of the Spokane Winter Knights Association Snowmobile Club (SWKASC) and other volunteers.

The hut is open to the public and operates under a special use permit, issued to SWKASC in 1996. Association members suggest that the location can be used as a gathering place for winter sports activities and emergency activities in the general vicinity.



**DEBBIE BUTLER** at snowmobile warming hut on Priest Lake.

The log building, 20' X 30', has benches, a woodstove and a composting toilet. SWKASC members cut and stack firewood for use at the facility and maintain the building and the toilet.

A recent dedication ceremony was attended by approximately 70 people, including Forest Service representatives Debbie Butler, special uses forester, and John Lowell, District snowmobile program coordinator.



**JOHN LOWELL AND DEBBIE BUTLER**, both from the Priest Lake RD, standing in the doorway of the "The Ritz" warming hut, named for Darrell Ritz, SWKASC project manager.

Photos by Darrell Ritz, SWKASC project manager.

## Ralph Barton Memorial, Swan Lake Ranger Station

by Dan Schraeder, Information Assistant,  
Swan Lake RD, Bigfork, MT, Flathead NF.

A memorial has been established at the Swan Lake Ranger Station, Bigfork, MT., Flathead NF, to honor Forest Service employee Ralph Barton, 41, who died in September, 1995.

Barton's career with the Forest Service spanned 23 years, 1973-1995, on the Swan Lake Ranger District. He made his home in Bigfork all his life.

Donations by Forest Service employees covered the cost of the memorial. It consists of a large boulder set in a concrete base at the ranger district compound.

Ralph's family provided the boulder. It came from property that was originally owned by Ralph's Grandmother. Cost of transporting the boulder from the family property in downtown Bigfork to the memo-

rial site was donated by one of Ralph's many friends. Attached to the front of the large boulder is a stone plaque with the following inscription:

Dedicated to the memory of  
**RALPH BARTON**  
USDA Forest Service  
1973-1995

A Forest Service shield and a helicopter silhouette are inscribed at the bottom of the stone plaque. Ralph was helicopter manager for the Forest Service and the Bigfork community quick response unit and served as a



**RALPH BARTON MEMORIAL** at Swan Lake Ranger Station, Bigfork, MT. Left to right: Ralph's parents, Chuck and Marlene Barton; Ralph's brother, Dave Barton; and Swan Lake District Ranger Charles E. (Chuck) Harris. Photo by Remy Pochelon.

member of the Bigfork Volunteer Fire Department.

The memorial was created as a lasting tribute to the positive effect a person can have on friends, community, family and fellow employees.



## Engineers-of-the-Year Managerial, Technical, Technician Awards

The Northern Region Engineers-of-the-Year managerial, technical and technician awards for 1996 were presented at the Regional Leadership Team awards presentation meeting in Missoula.

The R-1 honorees will participate in the Chief's Servicewide Engineers-of-the-Year competition.

### R-1 Engineers -Of- The-Year

**DANIEL E. NEUMAN**, Libby, MT, east zone engineering, Kootenai NF, was named Engineer-Of-The-Year in the technician category. His nomination by Kootenai NF Supervisor Robert L Schrenk emphasized Neuman's

- effective communication and coordinating efforts between Ranger Districts and the Engineering Zone.
- efforts produce exceptional engineering support and success in meeting accomplishments.
- his "can do" attitude produces exceptional results.
- has exceptional people skills and ability to communicate effectively.
- consistently achieves beyond what is expected.
- recognized throughout his career for exceptional contributions.
- in past 12 years, has received numerous awards for his outstanding work: Superior Performance Awards, Special Act Awards, Quality Step Increases, Outstanding Performance Ratings.

**MICHAEL R. MITCHELL**, Missoula, MT, zone geotechnical engineer, Lolo, Nez Perce, Bitterroot and Clearwater NFs, was recognized as Engineer-Of-The-Year in the technical category. His nomination by Lolo NF Supervisor Charles C. Wildes highlighted Mitchell as

- keeping abreast of the latest technology and applies it in his work.
- recognized throughout the Region as a leader in geotechnical engineering.
- is a valuable link between Research and Forest-level professionals promoting the latest technology available in an area that has been given top priority in most management decisions involving the ecosystem.
- has been a registered engineer in Montana for the past 20 years.
- for the past 14 years, Mitchell has received superior performance ratings for his geotechnical engineering work.

**WILLIAM K. DURYEE**, Great Falls, MT, forest engineer/land staff officer, Lewis & Clark NF, was named Engineer-Of-The-Year in the managerial category. In his nomination by Lewis & Clark NF Supervisor Gloria Flora, Duryee was characterized as

- diligent in applying the latest technology to all aspects of his work.
- facilitates the hiring of motivated, enterprising professionals who achieve quality, practical results.
- received sustained superior performance award in 1995
- tremendously pragmatic engineer; emphasizes simple solutions to everyday problems.
- efforts in reinvention resulted in combination of Lewis & Clark and the Helena NFs' lands staffs and engineering staff under his supervision.
- leads a streamlined, responsive service unit that has the ability to accomplish the normal volume of Eastside Forest projects with small budgets and with unit costs that rival larger Forests that benefit from economies of scale.
- is prepared to accomplish additional work when year-end savings allow projects to be moved up a year.

## School Gets Grant To Produce Video About Ranger's Wife

*by Diana Enright-Bawden, Public Information Technician,  
Cabinet RD, Trout Creek, MT,  
Kootenai National Forest.*

The Noxon (Montana) school has received an \$8,000 grant to create a 30-minute video program about the life of Pauline Reithmiller Gordon, the wife of Granville "Granny" Gordon, the first Forest Service ranger at the historic Bull River Ranger Station near Trout Creek, MT. Told from Pauline's perspective, the video will look at what the first ranger encountered in the area.

The Noxon school received the grant from the Montana Committee for the Humanities. The program will be adapted from a script, "Ranger Under the Influence," by writer-historian Mona Vanek of Noxon.

For the past 25 years Vanek, a freelance writer, has gathered photographs and oral histories from early settlers in the area and used these records in preparing a three-volume history of the area, "Behind These Mountains". Her tape is based on this research, and has been aided by Kootenai National Forest employees who combed the archives for photos.

Pauline "Lena" Gordon and her husband moved from Wyoming, where Granville had been a guide for Buffalo Bill Cody, to Montana in 1906. He joined the Forest Service and was named district forest ranger at the Bull River Ranger Station.

The Noxon school video program is expected to be finished by June and will be shown to numerous groups and organizations.



**PAULINE "LENA" GORDON** and her three daughters, in 1907.

## Rob Lundgren Retires: 32 Years With Forest Service

Rob Lundgren, fire management officer for the Pierce and Lochsa Ranger Districts, has retired after 32 years with the Forest Service.

He first worked summers, while attending college, as a fire lookout on the Sullivan Lake RD, Colville NF, starting in 1964. The next two summers he worked as a headquarters guard for the district and as district dispatcher.

After graduating from Washington State University in 1968 with a degree in industrial arts, Lundgren served in the Air Force in Vietnam as a helicopter flight engineer and advisor to the Vietnamese Air Force.

He returned to the Sullivan Lake RD as a fire prevention technician. After serving as a fuels technician on the Canyon RD, he was named fire management officer on the Lochsa RD. He had been zone fire management officer for the Lochsa and Pierce Districts since 1994.

Mr. and Mrs. Lundgren will continue to make their home in Kooskia, ID.

## Julie West Retires:

Timber Sale  
Administrator,  
North Fork Ranger District

Julie West started her 27-year Forest Service career in 1969 at the Coeur d'Alene Tree Nursery.

After working two years on the Fernan RD, Coeur d'Alene NF, as a planting crew boss, West worked on the tussock moth program, as a road surveyor on the Coeur d'Alene NF, gathered white pine seed cones for blister-rust-free trees, was involved in the Forest's flood control program and, in 1975, worked as silviculture crew leader. In 1977, she was promoted to scaler, cruising and marking timber.

After being classified a certified scaler, she worked on the Lochsa RD, Kooskia, ID, Clearwater NF, in presale, sale administration and scaling. She was the first woman scaler on the Idaho Panhandle NFs and, in 1986, became the first woman to be a certified sale administrator in R-1. Since 1988, she has served as sale administrator on the North Fork RD, Orofino.

Julie and her husband, Ray, live in Glenwood, a few miles out of Kamiah, ID.

## Carl Wolf's Service Recognized by MDFW&P, And Fisheries Society



R-1 retiree Carl E. Wolf of Worden, Montana, was recognized at a recent meeting of the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MCAFS) in Kalispell for his "outstanding contribution to the protection and enhancement of fisheries resources in Montana."

In announcing the award, Buddy Drake, MCAFS awards committee chairman, explained that Wolf, "As president of the Yellow-Horn Fly Fishers, led a volunteer effort for a Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) survey of the Sage Creek drainage (originates in Beartooth RD, Custer NF) in south-central Montana."

Beginning in 1987, "Wolf and club members caught and released trout within 35 miles of Sage Creek and many of its tributaries," Drake reported. "You described fish species distribution and especially Yellowstone cutthroat populations in your 1995 report...the club provided FWP valuable information it may never have collected otherwise."

"The information was put to immediate use when Billings Generation, Inc. proposed an ash disposal site near Piney Creek, a tributary to Sage Creek," Drake wrote in a letter to Wolf. "Your discovery of an isolated pure strain Yellowstone cutthroat population in this stream lead to a careful study and thorough safeguarding of this unique native fishery."

Jim Darling, Billings, FWP Regional Fisheries Manager, wrote Wolf a letter of thanks "for your excellent report, 'Sage Creek: A Report on the Search for Pure Strain Cutthroat Trout in a Tributary Strain of the Pryor Mountains.' I recognize that your efforts represented many days and many miles of travel as well as expenses for materials." FWP nominated Wolf for the MCAFS award in recognition of his volunteer work on the Custer NF and elsewhere in Montana.

Wolf continues his involvement with assignments to local advisory groups, Governor's councils and committees and

larger interest groups, such as the Federation of Fly Fisheries, Audubon, Southeast Montana Sportsmen, American Birding Association and others.

Commenting on the MCAFS recognition and award, Wolf said he hopes "it stimulates others to consider volunteering and doing work that is difficult for the working professionals to cover, yet needs to be done by competent, experienced individuals...it shows that we retirees can still contribute."

He retired December 2, 1994, from the Custer NF after 35 years with the Forest Service.

## Wendell Beardsley Retires: 28 Years in Forest Service



**WENDELL  
BEARDSLEY** turns  
in his Forest Service  
saddle and retires.

Wendell Beardsley, RO trail program manager, Recreation, Minerals, Lands, Heritage and Wilderness, retired in March after 28 years with the Forest Service.

A Minnesota native, Beardsley graduated from Stillwater (MN) High School and earned BS (1962) and MS (1965) degrees in forestry from the University of Minnesota and a PhD (1969) in forest economics at Utah State University.

He first worked for the Forest Service in 1961 on the Umatilla National Forest (Oregon), 1961-1963. After an assignment at the Rocky Mountain Forest & Range Experiment Station, Fort Collins, CO, Beardsley, served at the Intermountain Forest & Range Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah, 1966-1971.

From 1971 to 1977 he was on the faculty at Iowa State University, Dept. of Forestry. He served on the Recreation, Minerals, Lands, Heritage, and Wilderness staff, in the Northern Region headquarters in Missoula, from 1977 until his retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. (Barbara) Beardsley will continue to make their home in Missoula.

# Personnel Actions

## BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

GALE, DEBRA, forester, Wisdom RD, Quality Step Increase (QSI)

## BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

BEER, JEFF, supervisory training specialist (maintenance), Trapper Creek JCC, QSI  
CASE, BILL, center director, Anaconda JCC, promotion  
CRIST, JEWEL, nurse, Anaconda JCC, promotion  
DAVIES, SAMUEL, social services aid, Anaconda JCC, promotion to social services assistant

FUCHS, JIM, supervisory social services assistant, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award

JARUSSI, TONY, recreation assistant, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award  
MCCORMACK, ANNEMARIE, community health nurse, Trapper Creek JCC, QSI  
SWINDLE, CHINOOK, supervisory training specialist (work programs), Trapper Creek JCC, QSI

WOFFORD, PRENTIS, teacher supervisor, Trapper Creek JCC, QSI

### Reassignments & Transfers

LAWS, MARY, forester, St. Joe RD, Idaho Panhandle NF's, reassigned to forester (recreation), Darby RD

PEACOCK, CHERIE, civil engineer, Lolo NF, reassigned to SO

RITTER, DAN, wilderness resource specialist, Moose Creek RD, Nez Perce NF, reassigned to biological scientist, Darby RD

TERRILL, BILL, supervisory forester (recreation) reassigned to forester (silviculture), Bonners Ferry RD, Idaho Panhandle NF's

### New Employees

THOMPSON, TOM, lead forestry technician, Darby RD, noncompetitive appointment

### Retirements/Resignations

AMSDEN, BRUCE, civil engineer, SO, retirement

LABEREE, SHANE, social services assistant, resignation

## CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

MACINTYRE, ZONA R., computer assistant, SO, QSI  
PETERS, ANN E., budget & accounting analyst, SO, promotion  
SMITH, BARBARA J., procurement clerk, SO, promotion to lead administrative assistant, BLM

### Reassignments

THOMPSON, CARLA R., computer specialist, SO, reassignment, computer specialist, Black Hills NF

### Retirements

GRAY, JAMES P., forester, SO

## GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

GIRVIN, JOANNE, supervisory guide, Hebgen Lake Ranger District, career-conditional appointment  
JOHNSON, LYNN, budget & finance Officer, SO, performance award  
KEYES, CONNIE, personnel management specialist, SO, performance award  
MARX, BARB, resource specialist, Bozeman RD, QSI  
RUPERT, SUE, computer clerk, SO, career-conditional appointment  
TUTHILL, COLLEEN, information receptionist, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, reinstatement to career appointment, personnel clerk, SO

## IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

REHNBORG, ROBERT, forestry technician, promotion, forestry technician, Wallace/Feman RD  
MOUSSEAU, MARK, botanist, promotion, botanist, SO  
SHORT, BEVERLY, personnel clerk, promotion, personnel clerk, SO

### Reassignments & Transfers

FAHRNI, BRUCE, Bitterroot NF, forester, reassignment/position change, forester, St. Joe RD

HINSON, KATHLEEN, Nez Perce NF, forester, reassignment, forester, Sandpoint, RD

### Retirements

WAKEFIELD, RANDY, cartographic technician, retired, SO

## KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

### New Employees

CARLSON, JOHN, fisheries biologist, Cabinet RD  
NYGAARD, RICHARD, automotive worker, Cabinet RD

### Resignations

HIDY, CAROLYN, fish biologist, Cabinet RD

## LOLO NATIONAL FOREST

### Reassignments & Transfers

PEACOCK, CHERIE, supervisory civil engineer, Plains RD, reassignment, civil engineer, Bitterroot NF, SO

## NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards and Promotions

BARNETT, JILL D., law enforcement officer, SO, QSI  
CARPENTER, WILLIAM E., supervisory forestry technician, Clearwater RD, promotion  
FOLTZ (KENNY), MARGARET H., hydrologist, Elk City RD, promotion  
GEARY, LOIS L., program assistant, SO, QSI

HATTER, DEBRA K., computer assistant, SO, QSI

HAZELBAKER, NICHOLAS G., supervisory forester technician, Red River RD, quality step increase

HEIKEN, WILLIAM J., forester, Salmon River RD, performance award  
HOCHMUHT, GEOFF T., maintenance worker, SO, performance award

HOCKING, SCOTT A., forestry technician, SO, QSI

LEIDENFROST, KLAUS, wildlife biologist, Elk City RD, promotion

NORWOOD, KEVIN L., forestry technician, Elk City RD, QSI

PARADIS, WAYNE J., fish biologist, Clearwater RD, promotion

PHILLIPS (III), GERHARDT L., forestry technician, Salmon River RD, performance award

STERUD, YVONNE J., contract specialist, SO, QSI

WHITE, SYDNEY J., computer program analyst, SO, performance award

### Reassignments & Transfers

MOYNIHAN, MEGAN M., forester, Salmon River RD to SO, reassignment

ROBERTS, ROBERT E., forester, Salmon River RD to Elk City RD, reassignment

### Resignations:

WASHICK, DENISE A., wildlife biologist, SO, resignation



## IN MEMORIAM

**ANN B. DICKMAN**, 81, died April 18 in Missoula. She work in the Forest Service's Northern Region headquarters in Missoula, and retired from a post in the Div. of Engineering in the early 1970s.

**HERBERT J. HEINLE**, 72, died March 6 in Port Townsend, Washington. Born in Willa, N.D., he served in the U.S. Army in World War II and started his Forest Service career on the Powell (ID) RD, Clearwater NF. After serving as dispatcher on the Seeley Lake (MT) RD, Lolo NF, and as fire control officer on the Powell RD, Keinle was assigned to the Nez Perce NF headquarters, Grangeville, ID, as procurement and supply officer. He served with the Forest Service in Alaska and retired from the Northern Region headquarters in Missoula in the early 1970s.

**JOHN R. MILODRAGOVICH**, 79, died April 17 in Missoula, MT. He retired from the Forest Service in 1977 after 38 years of government service. At the time of his retirement he was director of timber management for the Forest Service's Northern Region.

He held a degree in forestry from the University of Montana. While attending the university, he worked summers for the Forest Service on the Kootenai, Deerlodge and Lolo National Forests. He served five years in the U.S. Army during World War II as an intelligence officer in Yugoslavia and Italy. After his military service, he accepted a permanent Forest Service appointment on the Philipsburg (MT) Ranger District, Deerlodge National Forest.

Subsequent assignments were on the Libby, Troy and Yaak Ranger Districts of the Kootenai NF. From 1955 to 1957 he was assistant supervisor of the Helena (MT) National Forest. Then he was promoted to the Northern Region headquarters Div. of State & Private Forestry in 1957. He was supervisor of the Nez Perce National Forest, Grangeville, Idaho, and from 1966 to 1969 he was supervisor of the Lolo National Forest, Missoula, MT. In 1969 he was promoted to director of State & Private Forestry for the five-state Northern Region. The next year he was promoted to Division Chief of Timber Management in 1970, a post he held until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Darinka, P.O. Box 3804, Missoula, MT 59806, a son, Michael, Missoula, and daughter, Michelle, Dillon, MT.

**VIRGIL "RED" DANIEL MOSS**, 88, Post Falls, Idaho, died April 8 in Spokane. A native of Fairfield, Washington, Moss held a master's degree (1932) in forestry from the University of Idaho. He worked for the Forest Service for 35 years, first in Moscow and later in Spokane. Moss worked in forest plant pathology, forest ecology, development & research in blister rust control, as a scientist/research forester and with the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. He developed the use and practical field application of two antifungal antibiotics, Acti-Dione and Phytoactin to control blister rust. Moss received the U.S. Department of Agriculture Superior Service Award, the Northern Region Certificate of Merit and the Northwest Scientific Association award.



**PAULINE LOVITT  
HONORED:** Deputy Regional Forester Kathy McAllister (left) presents an award to Pauline Lovitt, Bitterroot NF SO, "In appreciation for her support of the 1996 Ravalli County Combined Federal Campaign." Dixie L. Dies, Bitterroot NF Public Affairs Officer, also received an appreciation award.

Photo by Dixie L. Dies.

## INTO THE PAST

Did you recognize the "Into the Past" picture in the March issue of THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS?

It was a picture of Trapper Creek Ranger Station, Bitterroot National Forest, taken about 1910. It was later the site of the Trapper Creek Civilian Conservation Corps camp in the 1930s. Today it is the site of the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center.

The family pictured below is standing in front of their log home at a ranger station in the Gallatin National Forest in 1921. Can you name the ranger station?



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service is a diverse organization committed to equal opportunity in employment and program delivery. USDA prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political affiliation and familial status. Persons believing they have been discriminated against should contact the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice), or 202-720-1127 (TDD).

## Retiree in Oregon Identifies Picture Of Trout Creek RS

George E. Ogden, Grants Pass, Oregon, correctly identified the "Into The Past" picture on the back page of the January issue of THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS.

It was a winter 1921 picture of the Trout Creek Ranger Station, then part of the Cabinet NF.

Ogden writes that the Ranger Station was constructed shortly after the 1910 fires that "devastated much of northwestern Montana and a large area of northern Idaho...the main structure served as office, cook house and bunk house."

The District remained a part of the Cabinet NF through 1953. When the Districts were dispersed in 1954, the Trout Creek and Noxon Districts became part of the Kaniksu NF with headquarters in Sandpoint, ID. Thompson Falls and St. Regis Districts, including the Savenac Nursery, became a part of the Lolo NF. In 1973 Trout Creek and Noxon Districts were combined, renamed the Cabinet RD and transferred to the Kootenai NF.

Ogden was Fuels Management Officer, Bonners Ferry RD, Idaho Panhandle NFs, at the time of his retirement in 1983.

Printed on Recycled Paper

Federal Recycling Program

NATL AG LIB USDA  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS RM 00  
10301 BALTIMORE BLVD  
BELTSVILLE MD 20705

**BULK RATE**  
Postage & Fees Paid  
USDA Forest Service  
Permit No. G-40

**The Northern Region News**  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 7669  
Missoula, MT 59807

Official Use - Penalty for Private Use \$300